

The Concentrator 2

By

Gabe Wollenburg

“Where are you getting that I’m depressedesed?,” Kevin sent back to Kailie. He watched the status message that indicated that Kailie was typing him a message, and just as he was no longer able to believe she was really sending him a message so long, appeared these words:

"I can just tell."

"It took you 30 seconds to type that?" Kevin shot back.

No response. "Kailie is typing you a message" blinked at the bottom of the chat window. Blinked and blinked.

"This is what I mean, do you type like, 1000 words and then delete them or what?" Just as Kevin was about to press enter on the message and send it down to Kailie, she responded. "I guess. This is what I mean, Kevin. You're so bitchy."

Kevin deleted the message he had previously written and instead sent back: "Of course I'm bitchy. I have a shitty job, and a shitty apartment and I have a shitty worn out car and nothing is going my way."

"But your not depressed...." Kailie typed back quickly.

Kevin longed for the days of dial-up Internet connections so he could just turn his IM client off and tel Kailie that he must have been bumped offline by call waiting or something. Instead, he flicked his status message to "Away-- Don't bother me" and stood up from his computer. So much for getting work done.

Instead, Kevin decided to get himself some food, so he grabbed his jacket and his keys and left unceremoniously, locking

the door behind him and failing entirely to see that he'd placed his wallet and any means with which he'd have to pay sitting on his entryway table.

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